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(DOMINICAN)

WASHINGTON--CHAIRMAN J. WILLIAM FULBRIGHT, D-ARK., OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE SAID TODAY HE WAS NOT ENCOURAGED ABOUT PROSPECTS OF AN EARLY SETTLEMENT OF THE "VERY CHAOTIC SITUATION" IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

FULBRIGHT MADE THE STATEMENT AFTER A TWO-HOUR CLOSED DOOR SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE WITH U.S. AMBASSADOR V. TAPLEY BENNETT, JR., WHO RETURNED MONDAY FROM SANTO DOMINGO.

BENNETT WENT IMMEDIATELY FROM THE CAPITOL TO THE WHITE HOUSE FOR A MEETING WITH PRESIDENT JOHNSON AND ELLEWORTH BURNER, U.S. AMBASSADOR TO THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES AND A MEMBER OF THE THREE-PARTY JOINT COMMITTEE WHICH HAS BEEN TRYING TO WORK OUT A SETTLEMENT.

BENNETT TOLD THE SENATORS HE FELT THERE HAD BEEN A "VERY STRONG COMMUNIST INFLUENCE" IN THE DOMINICAN REBEL MOVEMENT AND THAT IT WAS STILL PRESENT, FULBRIGHT SAID.

THE AMBASSADOR TOLD REPORTERS AFTER THE MEETING THAT ALTHOUGH THERE WERE STILL COMMUNISTS IN THE REBEL MOVEMENT, BECAUSE OF U.S. ACTIONS THEY WERE "LESS CAPABLE" OF EXERTING INFLUENCE.

BENNETT TESTIFIED IN THE THIRD DAY OF THE COMMITTEE'S INQUIRY INTO ALL ASPECTS OF THE DOMINICAN CRISIS. ADM. WILLIAM F. HARPOON, DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY (CIA), WILL BE HEARD MONDAY.

7/16--DPCGAFED